Executive Proclamation
State of South Dakota
Office of the Governor

Whereas, Rita Murphy Bingham was born on March 12, 1914, in Manchester, New Hampshire, and grew up with her beloved brother, Mal, in Massachusetts; and,

Whereas, Birthdays commemorate the first day of our lives, and we celebrate the birthdays of those we love as we recognize the joys and sorrows we have shared, the strength we have gained from the obstacles and hardships we have conquered, and the small daily pleasures life offers; and,

Whereas, Rita married Bing in 1938, and to this union five children were born, Peter, Paula, Penny, Pamela Faith and Pamela Lenore, who went on to procreate three grandchildren and three great-grandchildren; and,

Whereas, Rita bravely followed her husband, Bing, to Alaska in 1951, and later to Hawaii and South Dakota; and,

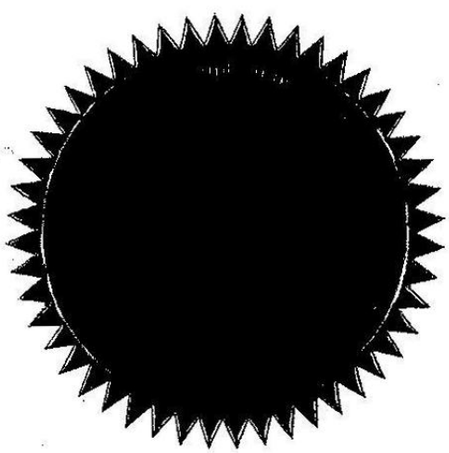
Whereas, Rita is a comforter, confidante and dear friend to many, she is known and loved for her humor, kindness, generosity, compassion, and strong faith; for her caring, listening and hospitality; for her brownies and chocolate chip cookies; for adopting stray cats—and stray souls; for her Boston accent and always trying to shoot the moon in Hearts; for her beautiful stitchery that graces many homes; for ministering to those who are sick or shut-in or alone through her weekly cards and letters; and,

Whereas, Rita will observe her 90th Birthday with all the good wishes, fanfare, and celebration such a milestone warrants, as her friends and relatives gather to honor her and celebrate her life and the camaraderie of the day; and it is fitting and proper for the Governor to make note of this milestone in the life of a woman who has lived an exemplary life for all to emulate:

Now, Therefore, I, M. Michael Rounds, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim March 12, 2004, as

RITA BINGHAM DAY

in South Dakota, and I join all her friends and relatives in wishing her a very happy birthday, good health, and great happiness.



In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Twenty-fifth Day of February in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Four.

M. Michael Rounds, Governor

Attest:

Chris Nelson, Secretary of State